

# Ganza language

**Ganza** (also Ganzo, Koma) (Arabic: *غانزا*) is an Omotic language spoken in Sudan and in the western Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia, specifically in the village districts of Penishuba and Yabeldigis.

It also goes by the names Ganzo, Gwami, Koma, and Koma-Ganza.<sup>[3]</sup>

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Ganza	
غانزا	
Native to	Sudan, Ethiopia
Region	Asosa Zone of Benishangul-Gumuz Region
Native speakers	3,000 (2007) <sup>[1]</sup>
Language family	Afro-Asiatic <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Omotic<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Mao<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Ganza</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	gza
Glottolog	ganz1246 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/ganz1246">http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/ganz1246</a> ) <sup>[2]</sup>

## Phonology

Consonants

		Bilabial		Alveolar		Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar		Glottal
		plain	ejective	plain	ejective			plain	ejective	
Nasal		<u>m</u>		<u>n</u>				<u>ŋ</u>		<u>ʔ</u>
Plosive	voiceless	<u>p</u>	<u>p'</u>	<u>t</u>	<u>t'</u>			<u>k</u>	<u>k'</u>	<u>ʔ</u>
	voiced	<u>b</u>		<u>d</u>				<u>g</u>		
Fricative	voiceless			<u>s</u>	<u>s'</u>	<u>ʃ</u>				<u>h</u>
	voiced			<u>z</u>						
Approximant				<u>l</u>			<u>j</u>	<u>w</u>		
Trill				<u>r</u>						

Ganza does not utilize consonant length phonemically.<sup>[4]:106</sup>

Vowels<sup>[4]:107</sup>

	Front	Back
Close	<u>i</u>	<u>u</u>
Mid	<u>e</u>	<u>o</u>
Open	<u>a</u>	

Although vowel length is typically contrastive in Omotic languages, Ganza does not have a clear contrast between long and short vowel phonemes. Instead, Ganza has predictable utterance-final vowel lengthening and a set of monosyllabic words with double vowels.<sup>[4]:109</sup>

## References

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- Smolders, Joshua. 2015. *A Wordlist of Ganza*. Addis Ababa: SIL Ethiopia

## Notes

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1. Ganza (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/gza/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Ganza" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/ganz1246>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. "Ganza" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/language/gza>). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 2016-11-23.
4. Smolders, Joshua (2016). "A Phonology of Ganza" (<http://journals.dartmouth.edu/cgi-bin/WebObjects/Journals.woa/1/xmlpage/1/document/1070>) (pdf). *Linguistic Discovery*. **14** (1): 86–144. doi:10.1349/PS1.1537-0852.A.470 (<https://doi.org/10.1349%2FPS1.1537-0852.A.470>). Retrieved 2017-01-16.

## External links

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- [Link to ELAR documentation of Ganza and Ganza verb mophology \(https://elar.soas.ac.uk/Collection/MPI1032017\)](https://elar.soas.ac.uk/Collection/MPI1032017)

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